

REMARKS

This is in response to the Office Action dated September 23, 2004. Claims 1-20 are pending in the present application. Claims 1-20 stand rejected.

Claims 1, 10 and 12 are amended.

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the claim rejections based on the above amendment and following remarks.

Claims Rejections – 35 U.S.C. 103(a)

Claims 1-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U. S. Patent No. 6,751,776 to Gong (hereafter “Gong”) in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. US 2003/0028378 to August et al., (hereafter “August”).

Each of Claims 1 and 12 recites, *inter alia*, “...composing the set of images to selectively match the set of images with the summary sentences to generate a plurality of summary image segments”.

Gong is generally directed to the creation of theme based personalized multimedia summaries from a database of multimedia items. Gong applies techniques such as using topic clustering and keyword searching to select video images relevant to a selected theme. (S100 in FIG. 1). Gong prepares summaries of its multimedia data by, *inter alia*, searching the keywords and using heuristics to select complete sections of multimedia data as summaries. Gong

does not process individual media of such multimedia, namely audio and video, to create its summaries.

Because Gong relies on its keyword search, topic clustering, natural language processing, etc., to search for relevant multimedia clips/sections that match a theme (Col. 6, lines 28-31 and lines 37-45), Gong does not teach “composing the set of images...to generate a plurality of summary image segments” and “auditing the summary sentences to generate a plurality of summary audio segments...”, as recited in Claims 1 and 12.

August is cited for suggesting “auditing the summary sentences...”. August is directed to an educational interactive language instruction method which attached attaches audio to text in a lesson by “recording phrases, words, etc., creating illustrations...linking sound files with images”. (Page 1, paragraph [0004]). This is done by combining audio with an illustration or video to synthesize an “audio-visual”/ multimedia lesson. August does not teach or suggest any selection, separation and synthesis of its many media materials to create summaries of such material.

Thus, neither August nor Gong suggests any processing of audio and video by “composing the set of images to selectively match the set of images with the summary sentences to generate a plurality of summary image segments...”, and “auditing the summary sentences to generate a plurality of summary audio segments...”, as recited in Claims 1 and 12. Further, neither August nor Gong suggest “matching the summary audio segments with the

summary image segments to generate story summary video for each story...” as recited in Claims 1 and 12.

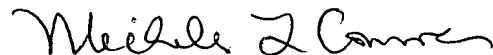
Thus, even if August, lacking as it is in teaching recitations of “composing the set of images...to generate...summary image segments” and “auditing the summary statements...to generate...summary audio segments”, were combinable with Gong, such a combination would not suggest or teach Claims 1, 10 or 12 to render any of them obvious. The Applicants, therefore, respectfully request the Examiner to withdraw the rejection of Claims 1 and 12 and allow the same.

Claim 10 includes recitations for “capturing audio clips from video clips, said audio clips corresponding to the summary sentences”, and “composing the video clips to selectively match the video clips with the summary sentences...”. Because Gong is directed to creating theme based summaries by using searching techniques on multimedia materials, as discussed above, and August is directed to creating instructional audio-video/multimedia materials by, *inter alia*, attaching audio to images, video, etc., as discussed above, neither Gong nor August suggest “capturing audio clips from video clips...” and/or “composing the video clips to selectively match the video clips...”, as recited in Claim 10. Hence, even if Gong and August were combinable, such a combination would not render the Claim 10 as obvious. The Applicants, therefore, respectfully request the Examiner to withdraw the rejection of Claim 10 and allow the same.

Claims 2-9 depend on Claim 1; Claim 11 depends on Claim 10; and Claim 13-20 depend on Claim 12. Hence, Claims 2-9, 11 and 13-20 are allowable for at least the same reason as Claims 1, 10 and 12. The Applicants, therefore, respectfully request the Examiner to withdraw the rejection of Claims 2-9, 11 and 13-20 and allow the same.

The Examiner's withdrawal of the claim rejections is respectfully requested. Early and favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



Michele L. Conover
Reg. No. 34,962
For Donald B. Paschburg
Reg. No.: 33,753
Attorney for Applicants

Siemens Corporation
Intellectual Property Department
170 Wood Avenue South
Iselin, New Jersey 08830
(732) 321-3191